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## ACC releases B-1B accident report

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) -- Air Force investigators have determined that the failure of two rivets on an improperly loaded B-1B bomber caused almost \$1.3 million in damage to the aircraft during a bombing mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom March 31.

The four-member crew landed the aircraft safely at its forward operating location. The ground recovery crew discovered the damage caused by the malfunction.

According to an Air Combat Command Accident Investigation Board report released today, an uneven bomb load caused the rivets on the ejector rack to fail. The malfunction damaged the aircraft but did not result in the accidental release of munitions, other loss or injury.

The crew and aircraft are assigned to the 28th Bomb Wing at Ellsworth AFB, S.D. At the time of the mishap, the crew and aircraft were assigned to the 34th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron.

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*Air Combat Command Public Affairs, United States Air Force, [ACC/PAI](#)*